



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/836,734	07/02/97	BECKMANN	J 960-29

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EXAMINER
ZITOMER, S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1634	

DATE MAILED: 02/27/98

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/836,734

Applicant(s)
BECKMANN et al.

Examiner
Stephanie Zitomer

Group Art Unit
1807



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 2, 1997

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire ONE month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☒ Claims 1-20 are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☒ Notice to comply with Sequence Requirements

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

RESTRICTION

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-4, 8 and, optionally, 20, drawn to nucleic acids, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1;
 - II. Claims 5-7 and, optionally, 20, drawn to a protease, classified in class 435, subclass 219;
 - III. Claims 15-18, drawn to a nucleic acid assay, classified in class 435, subclass 6.

2. Claims 9-14 and 19 have not been considered for prosecution because they are non-statutory. The claims are non-statutory because 35 U.S.C. 101, which reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefore, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

does not include "use" as an invention.

3. Inventions I and III are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the nucleic acids can be used in a digestion process to obtain nucleotides or as templates in a PCR process to obtain nucleic acids.
4. Inventions I and II are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together, or they have different modes of operation, or they have different functions, or they have different effects. (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions differ in their chemical composition, have different functions as the protease is not a coding molecule as is the nucleic acid and different modes of operation as the nucleic acid primarily is passively read whereas the protease has hydrolytic activity toward other proteins.
5. Inventions II and III are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together, or they have different modes of operation, or they have different functions, or they have different effects. (MPEP § 806.04,

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MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions . The enzyme of II is not capable of use in the nucleic acid assay of III because its hydrolytic activity would destroy the polymerase employed in the assay.

6. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art due to their recognized divergent subject matter restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.


7. Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

8. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(h).

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephanie Zitomer whose telephone number is (703) 308-3985. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, W. Gary Jones, can be reached on (703) 308-1152. The official fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-4242. The unofficial fax number is (703) 305-7401.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.


Stephanie W. Zitomer, Ph.D.
February 23, 1998

STEPHANIE W. ZITOMER
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Art Unit: 1634

NOTICE TO COMPLY

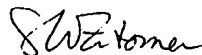
This application contains sequence disclosures that are encompassed by the definitions for nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences set forth in 37 CFR 1.821(a)(1) and (a)(2). However, this application fails to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.821 through 1.825 for the reason(s) set forth on the attached Notice To Comply With Requirements For Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence And/Or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures.

Applicant is given ONE MONTH, or THIRTY DAYS, whichever is longer, from the date of this letter within which to comply with the sequence rules, 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in ABANDONMENT of the application under 37 CFR 1.821(g). Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no case may an applicant extend the period for response beyond the SIX MONTH statutory period. Direct the response to the undersigned. Applicant is requested to return a copy of the attached Notice to Comply with the response.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephanie Zitomer whose telephone number is (703) 308-3985. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, W. Gary Jones, can be reached on (703) 308-1152. The official fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-4242. The unofficial fax number is (703) 305-7401.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.



Stephanie W. Zitomer, Ph.D.
February 23, 1998

STEFANIE W. ZITOMER
PATENT EXAMINER

NOTICE TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS FOR PATENT APPLICATIONS
CONTAINING NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCE AND/OR AMINO ACID SEQUENCE
DISCLOSURES

This application contains sequence disclosures that are encompassed by the definitions for nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences set forth in 37 CFR § 1.821(a)(1) and (a)(2). However, this application fails to comply with one or more of the requirements of 37 CFR §§ 1.821 through 1.825 as follows:

☐ 1. This application clearly fails to comply with the collective requirements of §§ 1.821 through 1.825. Applicant's attention is directed to these regulations, a copy of which is attached.

☐ 2. This application does not conform exclusively to the requirements of §§ 1.821 through 1.825. The non-conforming material should be deleted. § 1.821(b).

☐ 3. This application does not contain, as a separate part of the disclosure on paper copy, a "Sequence Listing." § 1.821(c).

☐ 4. This application does contain, as a separate part of the disclosure on paper copy, a "Sequence Listing." However, the "Sequence Listing" does not comply with the requirements of §§ 1.821 through 1.825 as follows:

☐ a. The sequence data does not comply with the symbol and format requirements of paragraphs (b) through (p) of § 1.822. Specifically: _____

☐ b. The "Sequence Listing" does not comply with the location and page requirements of paragraph (a) of § 1.823.

☐ c. The "Sequence Listing" does not comply with the information requirements of paragraph (b) of § 1.823. Specifically: _____

☐ d. Other: _____

☐ 5. The description and/or claims of the patent application mention a sequence that is set forth in the "Sequence Listing" but reference is not properly made to the sequence by use of a sequence identifier as required by § 1.821(d).

☐ 6. A copy of the "Sequence Listing" in computer readable form has not been submitted as required by § 1.821(e).

☐ 7. A copy of the "Sequence Listing" in computer readable form has been submitted. However, the computer readable form does not comply with the requirements of § 1.824. Specifically: _____

☐ 8. A statement that the content of the paper and computer readable copies are the same has not been submitted as required by § 1.821(f).

☐ 9. The amendment to or replacement of the paper and/or computer readable copies of the "Sequence Listing" does not comply with the requirements of § 1.825(a) through (c).

☒ 10. The computer readable form that has been filed with this application has been found to be damaged and/or unreadable. Applicant must provide a substitute copy of the data in computer readable form accompanied by a statement that the substitute data is identical to that originally filed. § 1.825(d). Specifically: please see attached error report.

☐ 11. Other: _____

APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THE DATE OF THIS LETTER WITHIN WHICH TO COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS. Failure to comply with the above requirements will result in ABANDONMENT of the application under 37 CFR 1.821(g). Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.136. Direct the response to, and any questions about, this notice to the undersigned. A copy of this notice MUST be returned with your response.

☐ For: Manager, Application Processing Division
(703) 308-1202 or 303- _____

☒ S. Zitomer
Examining Group 6234
(703) 308- 3985

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